

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /079 W

----- 001140

R 070732Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2171

INFO AMEMBASSY BANKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY RONGOON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT MY

SUBJ: RAZAK NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE AND STATE OF HIS HEALTH

1. IN PRE-RECORDED NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE BROADCAST ON RADIO AND TV, PRIME MINISTER RAZAK, WHO IS IN EUROPE RECUPERATING AND/OR VACATIONING, MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

--REITERATING CLOSE REGIONAL COOPERATION AS BACKBONE OF GOM FOREIGN POLICY, RAZAK SAID HE WOULD VISIT THAILAND, BURMA AND SINGAPORE "SOON" AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT ASEAN SUMMIT, WHICH WILL BE HELD IN INDONESIA IN FEBRUARY, "WILL GIVE NEW STRENGTH TO THE ASEAN MEMBER NATIONS."

--ACKNOWLEDGING COMPLAINTS OF MANY PEOPLE OVER POOR SERVICE FROM CIVIL SERVANTS, RAZAK SAID THAT GOM PLANS OVERHAUL GOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY IN EARLY 1976 TO ENSURE
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THAT THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN (TMP) IS CARRIED OUT SMOOTHLY

AND EFFECTIVELY

--PM EMPHASIZED GOM WOULD CONTINUE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS "DESPITE THE 'SERIOUS' EMERGENCY SITUATION." HE NOTED TMP EMPHASIS ON IMPROVING LIFE FOR THE POOR. HOWEVER, SECURITY EXPENDITURES MUST INCREASE AND PEOPLE MUST SUPPORT GOVERNMENT FULLY. RAZAK REGRETTED THAT THERE WAS STILL A SMALL NUMBER OF MALAYSIANS HELPING ENEMY, AND SAID "THESE PEOPLE MUST BE TREATED AS ENEMIES AND APPROPRIATE ACTION MUST BE TAKEN AGAINST THEM."

2. MESSAGE WAS OBVIOUSLY RECORDED SOME TIME AGO, PROBABLY BEFORE RAZAK'S DEC 17 DEPARTURE FOR EUROPE; E.G., JAN 7 REPORT OF PM'S TRAVEL PLANS (SEE PARA 4) DOES NOT MENTION TRIP TO BURMA. ESPECIALLY NOTABLE IS FACT THAT, ALTHOUGH PM ADMITS THAT MALAYSIA INVOLVED IN "SERIOUS EMERGENCY SITUATION," GOM WILL NOT SACRIFICE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS WITH EMPHASIS ON THE POOR. THIS, AND CALL FOR SUPPORT BY ALL THE PEOPLE IN STRUGGLE AGAINST COMMUNISTS, INDICATES THAT GOM AWARE THAT HEIGHTENED SECURITY MEASURES WILL CAUSE HARDSHIPS FOR SOME, ESPECIALLY RURAL CHINESE, AND SEEKS TO AMELIORATE CONDITIONS FOR THOSE WHO ARE INNOCENT TO SECURE THEIR SUPPORT, WHILE DEALING HARSHLY WITH THOSE WHO AID MALAYSIA'S ENEMIES.

3. EMPHASIS ON IMPROVEMENT IN GOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY REFLECTS REACTION TO LONG-STANDING PUBLIC DISSATISFACTION WITH DECLINING STANDARDS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND USLURES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF ASPECTS OF SECOND MALAYSIA PLAN. THIS IS PROBABLY ATTEMPT TO DRUM UP ENTHUSIASM FOR AND CONFIDENCE IN TMP WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED WITHIN NEXT FEW MONTHS.

4. JAN 7 PAPERS CARRY GOM NEWS AGENCY REPORT FROM LONDON SAYING RAZAK, AFTER MEDICAL CHECK-UP, "LOOKS MUCH HEALTHIER

NOW, ACCORDING TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN SEEING HIM," COMPARED WITH HIS APPEARANCE BEFORE TRIP TO EUROPE. REPORTS INDICATE PM DUE BACK IN KUALA LUMPUR "IN ABOUT TEN DAYS' TIME," AFTER WHICH HE WILL VISIT SINGAPORE AND THAILAND TO DISCUSS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REGIONAL AND BILATERAL MATTERS.
UNDERHILL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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